THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (DR. DASARI NARAYAN RAO) : (a) The total coal resources of India as on 1.1.2005 is estitamted to be 247.85 billion tonnes. Out of which 52 billion tonnes (Apprόx.) is estimated to be extractable. Import of coal is rising due to limited indigenous availability of low ash coking and non-coking coal, environmental consideration necessitating use of imported coal and consideration of location specific landed cost.

(b) and (c) With a view to enhance the energy security, Coal India Limited is exploring possibility of acquiring properties having good quality coking coal and low ash non-coking coal in foreign countries.

Action against non-productive companies

†1658. SHR DILIP SINGH JUDEV: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred Question 3729 given in the Rajya Sabha on 28th April, 2005 and state:

(a) the action taken against the companies who have not started production in spite of allotment of coal blocks;

(b) the companies which have already started production and whether they have been authorized to sell coal to other companies;

(c) if so, the amount of coal that is being sold by the private coal producing companies every year in the said period; and

(d) if not, the details of action taken against them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (DR. DASARI NARAYAN RAO) : (a) The allocatees of coal blocks who have not started production so far are in various stages in the process of obtaining lease and installation of their end-use projects. The progress achieved by them against certain given milestones are reviewed by the Screening Committee from time to time and if the desired progress is not achieved despite consistent persuation, the blocks are de-allocated. So far three coal blocks have already been de-allocated for want of satisfactory progress in development of coal block and installation of end-use projects. Notices to 10 companies have been issued for slippages on their part in achieving the milestones.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(b) The following companies have started production:—

Name of the Company	Block Allotted
M/s West Bengal State Elecricity Board (Replaced by M/s Durgapur Power Limited) and M/s West Bengal Power Development Corporation jointly through joint venture company *viz* M/s Bengal Emta Mining Ltd.	Tara (East) & Tara (West)
M/s Jindal Steel and Power Ltd.	Gare Palma IV/I
M/s Calcutta Electricity Supply Corporation through their venture company namely, Integrated Coal Mining Ltd.	Sarisatolli
M/s Indian Aluminum Company Ltd.	Talabira-I
M/s BLA Industries Ltd.	Gotitoria (East) & Gotitoria (West)
M/s Monnet Ispat Ltd.	Gare Palma IV/5

As per Ministry of coal circular dated 01.03.1999 coal produced from captive block if rendered surplus or in excess to the requirement due to any contingency of *force majeure* situation is allowed to be sold to another approved end user with prior approval of the Government.

(c) A total of 28,34,000 metric tonnes of rejects, slurry, jhama, middlings and surplus coal has been allowed to be sold to private companies during the year 2003 to 2005.

(d) Does not arise in view of the answer given to part (a) and (c) above.

Coal Wage Agreement for Singareni Collieries

1659. SHRIMATI N.P. DURGA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Coal Wage Agreement VII has been finalized for Singareni Collieries Company Ltd.;

(b) whether the Joint Bipartite Committee for Coal Industry have issued any directions for giving interim relief @ 15 per cent of the basic wages;

(c) if so, the date from which the interim relief has been released; and

(d) the reasons for delay in finalizing National Coal Wage Agreement VII?